

FATHOM THIS
The monthly newsletter from
San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

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Peter Kasin
Editor/writer

Contributors:

Gina Bardi
Reference Librarian

Keri Koehler
Supervisory Collections Manager

Melani Van Petten
Library Friends Assistant

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Greetings and welcome to the April issue of Fathom This! We invite you to visit the park and take in the many and varied programs we have to offer. For information on all the programs and events, please see the park website at <http://www.nps.gov/safr/>, and the website of our cooperating San Francisco Maritime National Park Association at <http://www.maritime.org>.

Fathom This! is sent monthly. Feel free to forward it, or enter it, in whole or in part, into blogs and wikis. To receive it, or to cancel, please contact the editor at peter_kasin@nps.gov. Your name and email address is never loaned or sold.

NATIONAL PARK WEEK / JUNIOR RANGER DAY

National Park Week, April 16-24. Junior Ranger Day, Saturday, April 23.
Celebrate National Park Week, April 16-24, when fees for visiting the historic vessels at Hyde Street Pier will be waived. The week will be highlighted by Junior Ranger Day, with a range of kids activities on Hyde Street Pier. For more information, please call the park's Junior Ranger Day coordinator, Park Guide Joseph Hooper at 415-561-7169, and the Visitor Center at 415-447-5000.

***CARGO IS KING* EXHIBIT WINS JOHN WESLEY POWELL PRIZE**

Exhibit located throughout Balclutha's 'tween deck. Vessel admission fees apply.
The Society for History in the Federal Government awarded San Francisco Maritime NHP's Exhibits Department the prestigious John Wesley Powell Prize for the *Balclutha's Cargo Is King* exhibit. Quoted from the notification: "The award committee made the selection based on the exemplary effort undertaken in researching, designing, and constructing the hands-on exhibit, as well as in producing the three associated films. The project serves as a model for interpreting history in a highly creative manner with broad appeal to the public. In capturing the attention of its audience, the exhibit successfully conveys an important aspect of American history. The painstaking historical research and care given to authenticity in replicating historical furnishings elevate this project to

the highest standards. Also notable are the special considerations required in installing the exhibit in a National Historic Landmark ship. The committee was impressed that the exhibit was produced and entirely constructed in-house by staff of the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park."

This is the second award given to the park for this exhibit. In 2009 *Cargo Is king* won a 1st place award from the National Association for Interpretation. Visit Hyde Street Pier and descend below deck aboard *Balclutha* to view this compelling exhibit on the ship's cargo-carrying history. View films about her three careers: Rounding Cape Horn carrying California grain to Europe and general cargo back to San Francisco; carrying lumber to Australia for mine construction; and sailing to Alaska with salmon fishermen and cannery workers. Learn about working conditions of the people who labored aboard ship and in the Alaskan canneries.

NEW LIBRARY PUBLIC HOURS

Maritime Library and Collections Department located at Fort Mason Center , Bldg. E, 3rd Floor. Wheelchair accessible by elevator. Information: 415-561-7030.

The J. Porter Shaw Maritime Library is now open Tuesday-Thursday, 1-5pm, with *no* appointment needed, and the third Saturday of the month, 10am-5pm, by appointment. Research your maritime history in a quiet, reflective waterfront setting.

MEET NEW REFERENCE LIBRARIAN GINA BARDI

Gina Bardi hails from Chicago, but has lived in exotic locations such as Houston and Los Angeles. She now lives in San Francisco with her husband Ty and the world's best dog, Sherman J. Peabody. She earned a B.A. in Film Production from Columbia College before deciding that Librarianship was her true love. She graduated from San Jose State University in 2003 with a degree in Library and Information Science. For seven years she ran the Library of French Thought at UC Berkeley (a small but bustling library) and was a Reference Librarian at Dominican University in San Rafael (a large and bustling library).

Her interests outside the library include crafting, exploring, eating, not cooking, cocktails, and literature. On weekends you may find her scouring thrift stores for odds and ends, walking Sherman at Fort Funston or putting off chores in a variety of ways.

She is getting her sea legs here and claims to find the smell of pine tar refreshing. In these past few months she has developed a love for all ships and some boats. Learn more about Ms. Bardi by visiting her in the library. She'd love to chat and show you around.

LINKS

<http://www.nps.gov/safr/> San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park
<http://www.maritime.org> San Francisco Maritime National Park Association, the park's nonprofit member-supported cooperating association.
<http://www.library.nps.gov> The Maritime Library catalog.
[http:// www.museum.nps.gov/safr.page.htm](http://www.museum.nps.gov/safr.page.htm). The park museum catalog records.

<http://www.maritimelibraryfriends.org> The Maritime Library's nonprofit member-supported cooperating association.

<http://www.hydestreetlivinghistory.org> The park living History program's volunteer created and managed website.

<http://www.corsair-viking.org> The San Francisco Sea Scouts, the park's neighboring partner in Aquatic Park.